



Proclamation

CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT PREVENTION MONTH

- Whereas** every child is precious and deserves to grow up in a healthy, safe, nurturing environment free from the threats, dangers and harmful effects of child abuse and neglect; and
- Whereas** child abuse occurs at every socioeconomic level, across ethnic and cultural lines, within all religions and at all levels of education; and
- Whereas** child abuse and neglect impacts our entire society and can cause traumatic psychological, emotional and physical harm which can lead to detrimental behaviors and mental and physical illnesses as children and into adulthood; and
- Whereas** child abuse is a community problem and finding solutions depends on the involvement of people throughout the community; and
- Whereas** the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community; and
- Whereas** effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, business and law enforcement agencies; and
- Whereas** youth-serving prevention programs offer positive alternatives for young people and encourage youth to develop strong ties to their community; and
- Whereas** all residents should become more aware of child abuse and its prevention and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment,

Now therefore, we, the Waterville City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2016, **Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month** and urge all residents to recognize this month by dedicating ourselves to the task of improving the quality of life for all children.

In Witness Whereof, I do hereby set my hands and seal this 15th day of March, Two thousand and sixteen.

Nicholas Isgro, Mayor

